

Thoughts for Lent . . .

**FAITH OF OUR FATHERS**

By BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (1789)

Our different sentiments (in the Constitutional Convention) on almost every question is, I think, a melancholy proof of the imperfection of human understanding.

We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it.

I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men.

And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that a new government can rise without His aid?

We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings that "except the Lord building the House they labor in vain that build it."

I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the Builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and byword down to future ages.

And, what is worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing governments by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war, and conquest.

I therefore beg to move that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessings on our deliberations be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business.

A Letter to Russia . . .

**THE THREE CHALLENGES**

(Seventh of a series) Dear Ivan:

Since the adoption of our Declaration of Independence, there have been three great challenges to the hope and promise that it contains.

The first was the challenge of two wars to achieve and to preserve American independence — the Revolution and the War of 1812. That first great challenge ended Jan. 8, 1815, with the defeat of the British at New Orleans.

There was a period of four years between the end of the first challenge and the beginning of the second, significantly known as the Era of Good Feelings.

The second challenge began in 1819 with the application of Missouri into the Union, and the ensuing struggle over slavery which ended in Civil War.

The Truths of the Declaration in the second challenge were assailed by Americans, because slavery denied those truths. In the passion of the struggle over slavery, a member of our Congress said the hope and the promise of our Declaration were "self-evident lies," not truths, just as do your rulers today.

Now, with the second challenge still present at home, we are in the midst of a third great challenge to the hope and the promise of the Declaration, brought by hostile governments abroad, such as your own.

History may fix a more positive date for the opening of the third challenge,

but a guess puts it in 1950 with the attack of North Korea against South Korea. With that attack, your Russian rulers gave the world brutal notice that they were beginning a life and death struggle with the hope and the promise of the Declaration of American Independence.

The United Nations, with the U.S. providing the backbone of leadership, men, and money, showed your country's rulers that free men had the courage and the determination to resist and to win.

With the so-called armistice, the passing of Stalin, and the emergence of Khrushchev, your country's rulers adopted a new strategy. The attack shifted from a frontal assault to subtle pressures of war in an era of peace to divide and to self-conquer free men through fear.

The shadow which is said to be cast across American society by the fact that a few men have the power to annihilate civilization is part of that attack. — it is part of the third great challenge to the hope and the promise contained in the Declaration.

Khrushchev, or any man who leaps through U.S. history, can see that big wars unite our people. Small wars, threats of war, and uncertainty divide them into bitter hateful factions. He is trying to divide our people with the threats of war in peace.

Khrushchev, using continual crises in selected parts of the world, brazenly boasts that your country can win by creating fears to self-conquer free people.

Then, why should Khrushchev risk a war that he could not win when he is convinced that he can defeat us in peace?

Your friend, Tom Torrance (Next: Clark and Khrushchev)

**April 1 Opens Freeway**

Newest section of the San Diego Freeway between Hawthorne and El Segundo Bldvs. will be dedicated and opened April 1.

The new two-mile segment will provide quick access to the Harbor and Long Beach Freeways for residents of Torrance.

**Veterans Office Opens**

A veterans service office has been assigned to the Torrance area to assist veteran and dependents to file claims and other services, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The office is located at 3231 Torrance Blvd., in the County Building and will be open Thursday and Friday of each week from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Paul M. Haverluck is the representative on duty. The Telephone number is FA 8-3310, Ext. 49. Supervisor Chace invites all veterans and dependents to avail themselves of this service as needed.



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THIS WEEK ONLY Beginner's Dance Class Grand Opening WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20—8:00 P. M. MUSIC BY LIVE ORCHESTRA 30 HOURS FOR \$5.00 YOU WILL LEARN: Cha Cha, Swing, Tango, Mamba, Foxtrot, Waltz, Samba THIS OFFER INCLUDES: Four Private Lessons—Ten Class Lessons—Sixteen Hours Social Dancing FREE ADDED FEATURE! THE BOSSA NOVA Taught by our Dance Director opening nite, March 20 FRED ASTAIRE STUDIOS IN TORRANCE: 2007 WEST CARSON FA 0-2922